



LIBRARY



CITY OF SALISBURY.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1939

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS.

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the state of the Public Health and details of Sanitary Work during the year 1939. The Report of your Sanitary Inspector is incorporated in above.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sd.) E. T. FISON,

4th November 1940.

SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	2845
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population at middle		
of 1939	...	(a) 28,650
at December 31st 1939	...	(b) 29,870
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1939	...	8200
Rateable value	...	£236,442
The sum represented by a Penny Rate		£985

The social conditions of the area are those associated with a progressive Cathedral city but without factories of any size.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are those which supply the ordinary needs of the area itself—a large agricultural population around—and the population of the various camps of Military and Air Forces in the Southern part of Wiltshire.

These occupations have no particular influence on the public health of the citizens.

		Total	Male	Female	Rate
BIRTHS.—Live.	Legitimate	458	229	229	15.99
	Illegitimate	16	7	9	0.56
	All Births	474	236	238	16.55

Birth Rates—Five years—

1938	...	14.11
1937	...	15.65
1936	...	14.2
1935	...	14.8
1934	...	15.00
Average	...	14.65

The Birth Rate is higher by 2.44 per 1000 in this area than in 1938 and 1.55 higher than in England and Wales.

		Total	Male	Female	
BIRTHS.—Still.	Legitimate	15	7	8	
	Illegitimate	1	0	1	
	All Births	16	7	9	Rate 0.5
					per 1000 population

DEATHS.	<i>Total.</i>		<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>
	324		162	162	10.09

Death rate—Five years—

1938	...	...	...	...	11.99
1937	...	...	...	...	11.56
1936	...	...	...	...	11.73
1935	...	...	...	...	10.76
1934	...	...	...	...	11.1
Average	...	...	...	...	11.43

Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child Birth—

From Sepsis	...	...	1
From other causes	...	...	1

Infantile Mortality Rate—

Death Rate of all Infants under one year of age	...	...	...	47
Total deaths (legitimate and illegitimate)	...	...	...	23
Deaths of Legitimate Infants	...	...	...	23
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants	...	...	...	0

Infantile Death Rate—Five years—

1938	...	...	...	37
1937	...	...	...	45
1936	...	...	...	43
1935	...	...	...	41
1934	...	...	...	53
Average	...	...	...	43.8

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	46
„ „ Measles „ „	...	...	...	...	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs. of age)	...	...	...	...	0

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of
Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and
Case-rates for certain Infectious
Diseases in the year 1939.

England and Wales, London,
126 Great Towns and 148
Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
Rates per 1,000 Population				
Births:—				
Live	15.0	14.8	15.6	12.3
Still	0.59	0.59	0.57	0.44
Deaths:—				
All Causes	12.1	12.0	11.2	11.9
Typhoid and Para- typhoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox... ..	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.02
Influenza	0.21	0.19	0.20	0.18
Notifications:—				
Smallpox.. ..	0.00	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1.89	1.96	1.78	1.53
Diphtheria	1.14	1.21	1.16	0.98
Enteric Fever	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Erysipelas	0.34	0.40	0.31	0.37
Pneumonia	1.02	1.21	0.89	0.99
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	50	53	40	48
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age... ..	4.6	6.3	3.0	8.2
Maternal Mortality:—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.77	Not available		
Others	2.16			
Total	2.93			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e., Live and Still)				
Maternal Mortality:—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.74	Not available		
Others	2.08			
Total	2.82			
Notifications:—				
Puerperal Fever	14.35	17.26	12.99	3.31
Puerperal Pyrexia				14.22

DEATHS (Corrected). Causation.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
All Causes	162	162	20 Pneumonia (all forms)	6	6
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	21 Other Respiratory Diseases	0	2
2 Measles	—	—	22 Peptic Ulcer	1	3
3 Scarlet Fever	0	1	23 Diarrhœa etc. (under 2 years)	0	0
4 Whooping Cough	0	2	24 Appendicitis	2	1
5 Diphtheria	1	1	25 Cirrhosis of Liver	0	1
6 Influenza	1	2	26 Other Diseases of Liver etc	1	2
7 Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	27 Other Digestive Diseases	1	2
8 Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0	28 Acute & Chronic Nephritis	3	4
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	9	2	29 Puerperal Sepsis	0	1
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	1	30 Other Puerperal Causes	0	1
11 Syphilis	1	0	31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations etc.	7	9
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	2	0	33 Senility	2	4
13 Cancer, Maglignant Disease	23	23	33 Suicide	2	0
14 Diabetes	0	4	34 Other Violence	9	1
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage etc.	9	19	35 Other Defined Diseases	14	6
16 Heart Disease	50	55	36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	0	1
17 Aneurysm	0	—			
18 Other Circulatory Diseases	11	6			
19 Bronchitis	5	2			

The above figures only refer to deaths of residents in Salisbury and to those who died outside Salisbury but whose named residence is in this area. There were 566 deaths registered as occurring in Salisbury. 355 of these deaths occurred in institutions and other places. There were 19 Inward Transfer deaths, (*i.e.*, those of residents of Salisbury who died outside the area.), and 261 Outward Transfer deaths (*i.e.*, those of non-residents who died in the City.)

The disposition of the deaths in institutions in the area is as follows :—

	<i>Residents.</i>	<i>Non-Residents.</i>
The Old Manor	2	44
Salisbury Infirmary	44	120
Tower House	32	69
Harnwood Hospital	3	21
Nursing Homes	11	7
Other places	2	0
	<hr/> 94	<hr/> 261
	<hr/> 355 <hr/>	

INFANT MORTALITY

Causes of Death	Under 1 week.	between 1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 mths	3 mths and under 6 mths	6 mths and under 9 mths	9 mths and under 1 year	Total
Prematurity ..	8			1	9					9
Marasmus ...			1		1					1
Broncho-Pneumonia						2			2	4
Accidental Suffocation						1	1			2
Whooping Cough				1	1					1
Atelectasis	1				1					1
Hæmorrhagic Disease	3				3					3
Acute Encephalitis							1			1
	12		1	2	15	3	2		2	22

Inquests were held on 23 Deaths.

Residents Non-Residents.

1	4	deaths were due to motor car, motor lorry, motor cycle or pedal cycle accidents.
	1	death was due to tetanus following a bite by a cockerel
1		death was due to heart failure.
1	3	deaths were due to accidental falls.
2	4	deaths were due to suicides.
—	1	death was due to burns.
—	2	deaths were due to accidental blows
2	—	deaths were due to accidental suffocation
—	1	death was due to accidental gun-shot wound

Section B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

I. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health, part-time official. Contribution to salary made under the Public Health Acts. Superintendent Medical Officer of Maternity and Child Welfare Centre; also School Medical Officer and holding Diploma of Public Health of Cambridge University.

Medical Officer in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. Three Sessions weekly.

Medical Officer in charge of Ante-Natal Centre.

Medical Officer in charge of Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic. Two Sessions weekly.

Senior Sanitary Inspector, whole time, who is also a qualified Inspector of Meat and other foods. Contribution to salary made under the Public Health Acts. Also Rat Officer under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act 1919.

Sanitary Inspector, Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, and Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board.

Health Visitor, whole time. State Registered Nurse, also certificate of the Central Midwives Board, and Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. Exchequer Grant.

Health Visitor, half time. State Registered Nurse, also Certificate of the Central Midwives Board, and Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

II.

- (a) Laboratory facilities are available at the Greville Laboratory, Salisbury Infirmary. The Council pay for all examinations of specimens connected with infectious disease, also examinations of milk and drinking water are regularly carried out.
- (b) A most efficient ambulance service exists which is financed by the Local Authority.
- (c) Nursing in the home is carried out if and when necessary.
- (d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

- (i) *Maternity and Child Welfare Centre*.—Three afternoon sessions per week.

365 New Cases under one year of age were presented, a percentage of 72 per cent of the annual Births.

100 New Cases over one year were presented.

The total number of individual cases attending was 832, and of these 490 were over 1 year.

The total attendances was 4595, and the number referred for treatment was 123.

- (ii) *Ante-Natal Clinic*.—Two sessions weekly.

The number of individual City cases attending was 121. The total number of attendances 837. The following is a list of abnormalities found :—

Malpresentations	...	...	12
Contracted Pelvis	...	...	1
Heart Disease	...	...	5
Anæmia	...	...	4
Toxæmia	...	...	18
Urinary Infection	...	...	15
Venereal Disease	...	...	Total 55

- (iii) *Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic*.—The Local Authority having adopted the principle of immunisation against diphtheria, this was commenced at the end of June, 1934.

All children of nine years of age and upwards are Schick Tested; the reactors are given Diphtheria Prophylactic, two doses of 1.cc are given, one month's interval taking place between the first and second, three month's after the second injection a final Schick test is made.

The number of cases fully immunised at the end of 1939 was 1378.

The number of cases partly immunised at the end of 1939 was 251.

Of these cases 386 were under school age, 853 were of school age and 390 were over school age.

- (iv) *The Orthopædic Clinic* is staffed by the Wiltshire County Council. The Local Authority pays for special cases. Orthopædic cases are also dealt with at Salisbury Infirmary.

III.

- (i) *Midwifery and Maternity Services*.—The Local Authority co-operates with the Voluntary Hospital of the area in regard to admission of necessitous and complicated cases. Four Midwives practice in the district two being attached to the Salisbury Infirmary.
- (ii) *Institutional Provision for mothers and children* exists in the area, but it is not wholly financed by the Local Authority.
- (iii) *Health Visitors*.—The following is a summary of their work in 1939:—

Ante-Natal Visits	...	...	203
Visits to Children under one year	...	...	1646
Visits to Children one to five years	...	...	2273
Visits to Evacuees	...	...	912
			Total 5034

(iv) Infant Life Protection.

Number of Children on register at end of the year.	7
Number transferred to other districts during the year.	5
Number legally adopted during the year	1
Number removed due to unsuitable conditions	0
New cases in 1939	4
Number of Deaths	0

(v) *Evacuation, September 1939*

Children from Elementary Schools in Portsmouth and from the Southern Secondary School (girls) and Junior Technical Boy's School were evacuated to Salisbury on September 1st.

There were on that date 1,865 unaccompanied children together with 516 Teachers, Helpers and Mothers with children under school age, and at a later date 60 more school children joined their group in Salisbury. The billeting of the children was undertaken by the Teachers, and afterwards all were visited by the Health Visitors and School Nurse, and points regarding the billet and the children themselves were noted.

In common with most Local Authorities difficulties soon became apparent, *e.g.* verminous condition, scabies, bed wetting, and later unruly children. These latter conditions became so urgent that a Hostel was set up, staffed by Evacuated Helpers and Teachers, and to some extent has saved a very difficult situation.

Section C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

I. *Water*

The Ministry is aware of the contamination that took place in 1930. The measures then adopted are still being carried out.

The water supply is satisfactory and is constantly analysed.

A Typical analysis is appended :—

Salisbury General Infirmary,
Pathological Department, Greville Laboratory.

Report on the Analysis of a sample of water received on 5.4.40 from 188
Devizes Road - Camp Hill Supply.

Physical Characters.—Excellent.

Chemical.

	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Reaction—Alkaline to Litmus	P.H. 7.2
Saline and Free Ammonia	0.002
Organic (or “albuminoid” ammonia)	<i>Nil</i>
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 2 hours at 27 C.	0.008
Chlorides	2.6
Nitrogen as nitrates	0.5
Total Hardness	37.0
(a) Temporary	27.0
(b) Permanent	10.0
Poisonous Metals	<i>Nil</i>
Nitrates	<i>Nil</i>
Microscopical examination of the sediment	<i>Nil</i>
Free Chlorine	less than 0.05 parts per million

Opinion.—Chemical analyses shew no evidence of harmful pollution.

(Signed) L. H. DOUGLAS THORNTON, Pathologist.

Water Supply.—Extensions of water mains of 3ins and 4ins diameter of a total length of 1687 yards have been laid to supply new development on public and private streets. All houses built during the year have been connected to the main supply.

(ii) *Rivers and Streams.*—No gross pollution has taken place.

(2) *Public Cleansing.*—Refuse Collection.—This is most satisfactorily dealt with two motor freighters collecting and conveying to the Horsfall Destructor and by controlled tipped.

(3) *Sewage Disposal.*—A typical analysis is appended.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS:

The Laboratory, 4, Queen Square, Bristol.
2nd July, 1939.

Of a sample of Effluent from Salisbury City Sewage Works taken by T. R. Cox on 26th June, 1939 for Dr. Tangye, The Wilts County Council, Trowbridge.

Physical Appearance: Very slight opalescence. Parts per 100,000 slight brownish-yellow colour and earthy smell.

Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	3.5
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.16
Chlorine	...	...	10.0
Oxygen Absorbed (4 hours)	...	...	0.64
Nitrates (Nitrogen as)	...	...	0.45
Dissolved Solids	...	...	58.4
Solids in suspension	...	...	<i>Nil</i>
<hr/>			
Total Solids	...	...	58.4
<hr/>			

Dissolved Oxygen absorbed after 5 days' incubation 0.68 parts per 100,000.

This is a good effluent.

(Sgd.) WATERFALL AND O'BRIEN.

III.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

During the year 1337 inspections, involving 2711 visits, were made for the investigation and suppression of nuisances, compared with a total of 2611 last year. An additional 1410 visits were made to slaughterhouses only, these being reviewed under a separate heading.

The reduced number of inspections is accounted for by the reduction of staff for seven months of the year and the consequent additional time spent at the slaughterhouses.

138 complaints were investigated by the department during the year, and 121 informal and 34 Statutory notices were served.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Work completed during the year 1939.

Housing—

Roof repaired or renewed	...	...	9
Gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	3
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	3
External walls repaired or repointed	...	...	8
Window and door sills repaired or renewed	...	...	3
Dampness abated :—(i) Repairs to roof	...	...	4
(ii) Repairs to gutters or rain water pipes	...	...	6
(iii) Repairs to external walls	...	...	13
(iv) Waterproofing of internal walls	...	...	131
Yard or passage surface paved or repaired	...	...	14
Wall plaster repaired	...	...	43
Ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	37
Walls cleaned or redecorated	...	...	3
Rooms cleaned or redecorated	...	...	67
Ceilings cleaned or redecorated	...	...	73
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	69
Sashcords provided	...	...	34
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	29
Floor repaired or renewed	...	...	69
Stairs repaired or renewed	...	...	6
Firegrates or ranges repaired or renewed	...	...	27
New sink provided	...	...	10
New sink W.P. provided	...	...	10
Separate water supply provided	...	...	6
Washing copper repaired or renewed	...	...	9
Food store repaired or improved	...	...	3
Refuse receptacle provided	...	...	11
Miscellaneous Housing items	...	...	23
<i>Sanitary Conveniences—</i>			
New W.C. basin provided	...	...	6
W.C. cistern repaired or renewed	...	...	5
W.C. compartment repaired	...	...	10
Miscellaneous items	...	...	3

<i>Drainage</i>			
Drains examined	...	...	29
Drains cleansed	...	...	3
Drains repaired or reconstructed	...	...	10
Premises drained to sewer	...	...	1
S.P. or V.S. repaired	...	...	2
Interceptor provided	...	...	1
Inspection chamber provided	...	...	5
Fresh air inlet fixed	...	...	1
New gullies provided	...	...	6
Drains tested	...	...	4
Miscellaneous items	...	...	3
<i>Nuisances</i>			
Nuisance from keeping animals abated	...	...	1
Smoke nuisance abated	...	...	1
Miscellaneous abated	...	...	1
<i>Cowsheds and Dairies</i>			
Cowsheds cleansed and limewashed	...	...	5
Dairies cleansed and limewashed	...	...	3
Additional lighting provided	...	...	1
<i>Slaughterhouses</i>			
Slaughterhouses cleansed and limewashed	...	...	12
<i>Bakehouses</i>			
Bakehouses cleansed and limewashed	...	...	20
<i>Factories</i>			
Premises cleansed and limewashed	...	...	2
Miscellaneous items	...	...	1
<i>Tents, Vans and Sheds</i>			
Refuse receptacles provided	...	...	1
<i>Food Preparing Premises</i>			
Premises cleansed and limewashed	...	...	1
Structural repairs carried out	...	...	1

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Common Lodging Houses.—There is one Common Lodging House situated in Winchester Street, and registered to accommodate 44 lodgers. It is an old half timbered building which has served several other purposes and comprises kitchen, washing room, small lower sleeping room, and large upper sleeping room. Sufficient and satisfactory closet accommodation is provided and water supply laid on. Both Keepers and Deputy Keeper are registered annually as required, and day and evening inspections frequently made.

Offensive Trades.—There are now only two such trades carried on within the City, one a gut scraper and the other a rag and bone dealer. The premises are generally kept reasonably clean and tidy but constant watch is necessary at the gut scraper in order to ensure adequate ventilation and the reduction of nuisance from effluvia.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act 1919.—Rat week was held during November and altogether extensively advertised the number of individuals and firms applying for free poison and advise was disappointing. Most of the 2298 baits were laid by the Corporation Sewer Staff and the returns shew that 1579 were taken and 142 dead rats found.

Caravans used as Permanent Dwellings.—At the annual October Fair 12 Caravans were inspected and found to be clean, not over crowded and free from infectious disease. The reduction on the usual number of vans was of course due to the exigencies of the times.

Smoke Abatement. Four obstructions were made during the year and a notice served for the abatement of the nuisance.

Section D. HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1939.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total including numbers given separately under (b) :				
(i.) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	<i>Nil</i>
(ii.) By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	—
(iii.) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	108
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—				
(i.) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	<i>Nil</i>
(a) For the purpose of Part II. of the Act, 1925	...	...	...	<i>Nil</i>
(b) For the purpose of Part III. of the Act, 1925	...	...	...	<i>Nil</i>
(c) For other purposes—				
Housing Act, 1924, in course of construction				<i>Nil</i>

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	672
(b) Number of visits made for the purpose	...	...	...	747
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	101
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	57
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation,	...	...	...	19

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices—*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	121
---	-----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year—*

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	21
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	10
(b) By local authority in default of owners	<i>Nil</i>

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	34
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	9
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	<i>Nil</i>

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
(Individual Unfit Houses)

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	7
(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3

D.—Proceedings under Sections 25 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936
(Clearance Areas).

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	30
(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4

E.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made *Nil*

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit *Nil*

Number of Houses owned by the Local Authorities :—

(1) Parts II and III of the Housing Act, 1925 *Nil*

(2) Other Powers *Nil*

Housing Act, 1919	210	Housing Act, 1923	304
„ „ 1924	110	„ „ 1925	<i>Nil</i>
		„ „ 1930 ...	112
Total		736	

Housing Act 1936 – Part IV – Overcrowding.—

(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	...	...	...	1
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	4
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	7
Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	78

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED.

Slaughter Houses and Meat Inspection.—There are eight private houses, employing 19 licenced slaughtmen, within the City, one having been demolished during the year and the business of slaughtering transferred to another. These generally are old premises and could with advantage be replaced with one small central abattoir together with adequate lairage accommodation and the consequent reduction of nuisance from noise etc, to adjacent dwelling houses. Slaughtering is carried on each day except Sunday. A total of 1410 visits were made and the use of the humane killer and compliance with the Bye-Laws and Meat Regulations noted.

All beef and pork carcases and offal are individually inspected and the majority of calves and sheep, the latter being rarely affected with disease.

A word of appreciations must be offered to the butchers and slaughtermen for their goodwill and co-operation, as evidenced by the fact that at no time was it found necessary to “seize” any diseased or unsound meat.

Details of the number of animals killed and the amount of meat destroyed are as follows:—

Number of animals killed ... 8416

Diseased and unsound meat surrendered or destroyed:—

Carcase and all offal affected with Generalised Tuberculosis

Beasts	3	...	...	Weight 1576 lbs.
Pigs	7	...	...	—

Localised Tuberculosis

Beef:—

Heads and Tongues	22	...	...	660lbs.
Lungs	31	...	...	186
Intestines	12	...	...	96
Livers	7	...	...	84
Plucks	2	...	...	24

Pork:—

Intestines	39	...	...	780lbs.
Heads and Tongues	75	...	...	100
Lungs	4	...	...	9
Livers	4	...	...	12
Plucks	4	...	...	8
Spleen	1	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$

Miscellaneous Conditions

Beasts	24	...	...	420lbs.
Pigs	12	...	..	103 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sheep	8	...	...	51 $\frac{3}{4}$
Veal	1	...	...	60

				5216 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

2 tons. 6 cwts. 2 Qtrs. 8 lbs.

Other Food Preparing Premises.—There were 33 Butchers' shops, 18 Bakehouses 17 Restaurant Kitchens, 11 Fried Fish Shops and 4 Ice Cream Vendors on the registers at the end of the year. 128 inspections were made and 6 notices drawing attention to the unsatisfactory condition of the premises were issued. Most of the Food Preparing premises are in good structural condition but a number are without sufficient and convenient sanitary accommodation for the use of the staff and public; the chief difficulty being the congested state of the old property with which the City abounds.

The following lots of fish were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed during the year:—

Dried Whiting	...	...	140 lbs.
Kippers	...	...	84
Skate	...	...	70
Haddock	...	...	28
Mackerel	...	...	4

			336 lbs.

The Market Place.—Weekly inspections of the market stalls were made with a view to observing the sale of unsound food and also compliance with the Meat Regulations as to the proper covering of stalls, etc. Stall holders have been advised of the desirability of keeping open baskets and boxes containing food, particularly fish, fruit and vegetables off the ground, but with the lack of adequate storage facilities it remains for bye-laws to be formed under the new Food and Drugs Act in order to deal effectively with the matter.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—104 inspections were made of the eight cowsheds and 29 dairies within the City's boundaries, 7 verbal warnings and 6 written notices being necessary with regard to unclean methods of production and distribution. The buildings generally are in good structural condition and kept clean, although some of the older cowsheds are in need of reconstruction to bring them into line with modern standards of hygiene. Only two of the 37 premises are provided with adequate facilities for sterilising utensils, and 3 cowsheds are without a laid-on water system. One cowkeeper is licenced for the production of "Tuberculin Tested" milk and 1 for "Accredited"; two dealers are licenced to sell "Accredited" and one "Pasteurised" milks, while two Pastuerisers' licences are also in force.

Milk Sampling.—Fifty-seven samples were submitted to the Pathologist for cleanliness and 26 failed to pass; a further 30 samples were taken by the County Council's Sanitary Inspector from producers supplying the City's retailers, and 23 of these proved satisfactory. Twenty-four of the 57 samples were also submitted for the Tuberculin Test and each proved negative. One Country sample proved positive and proceedings were instituted against the Cowkeeper for failing to notify as to the condition of the Cow. Of 22 pasteurised samples sent for report, six proved pasteurisation to be inadequate and steps were taken to remedy the conditions, but difficulty is still being experienced in producing a satisfactory result.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The administration of this Act was taken over by the Wiltshire County Council at the end of September, 1939.

Number of informal samples taken until September 30th, 1939	120
Number of formal samples taken until September 30th, 1939	<i>Nil</i>
Number of formal samples found adulterated	<i>Nil</i>
Number of informal samples found adulterated	1
Number of Prosecutions	<i>Nil</i>

Section F.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The year under review was not marked by any special incidence of infectious disease. Measles and Whooping Cough became notifiable in October. A special clinic for artificial immunisation against Diphtheria is in being and control of this disease is attempted by prompt removal to hospital and swabbing of all contacts, entailing 367 examinations during the year.

Bedding is removed for steam disinfection and disinfectant supplied to all households where infectious disease occurs, with instructions given for its use. The policy to discontinue fumigation except in cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis has had no adverse results and has saved considerable time and expense. Head Teachers of the Schools and the Secretary to the Education Committee are notified immediately of the existence of a notifiable infectious disease in the homes of the children; 61 notices were sent out during the year requiring prohibiting the children from attending school for the requisite period.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during 1939.

Notified Cases	All ages	under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65	Removed to Hospital
<i>Scarlet Fever</i> Deaths	34 1	0	10	15 1	7	2	0	0	119
<i>Diphtheria</i> Deaths	21 1	0	5	13 1	2	2	0	0	23
<i>Pneumonia</i> Deaths	29 0	4	2	5	3	5	10	0	2
<i>Puerperal Pyrexia</i> Deaths	18 0	0	0	0	13	5	0	0	25
<i>Erysipelas</i> Deaths	5 0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	3
<i>Ophthalmia Neonator-</i> Deaths [um	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Meningitis</i> Deaths	2 1	0	1	0	0	1 1	0	0	1
<i>Whooping Cough</i> Deaths	9 0	—	6	3	—	—	—	—	

*Tuberculosis.**New Cases and Mortality during 1939.*

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1939 :—

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory.		Non - Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1								
1—5								
5—15			1	3			1	1
15—25	3	1	2	2	3	0		
25—35	5	6						
35—45	2		3	1				
45—55	5	1		1	3			
55—65					3	1		
65 and up	1	1				1		
Totals	16	9	6	7	9	2	1	1

There were at the end of 1939, 152 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 108 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis on the Register.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.
1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Premises (1)	Inspections. (2)	Notices. (3)		Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
		Written	Verbal	
Factories ... (Including Factory Laundries).	15	0	6	None.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			No. of offences in respect of which Prosecu- tions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness ...	3	3	Nil.	Nil.
Want of ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—

